CO SITUATION REPORT

27 May 2015

Uganda
Situation Report on Refugees from Burundi

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- Current trends suggest increased inflows of Burundian refugees into Uganda with an average arrival of approximately 150 households or 350 individuals within the last few days.
- Uganda’s Burundi Refugees Response Plan was presented by David Apollo Kazungu, Commissioner, Department of Refugees, Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) on the 26th of May.
- A UNICEF multi-disciplinary team is part of a Joint Field Visit (fact finding mission) 28-29 May 2015 to assess immediate needs for the Burundian refugees within the south west region.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

It is one month to elections in Burundi and there are increased demonstrations after a failed coup attempt. Thousands of Burundians have fled to seek refuge in Tanzania, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Uganda. Uganda’s Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) reports that since November 2014, a total of 5,952 Burundians have been granted asylum in Uganda. Current trends suggest increased inflows considering the arrival rate of approximately 150 households (350 individuals) within the last few days. Asylum seekers, who have arrived in Uganda is generally good physical condition, reportedly cited the main reasons for taking flight as fear of violence. In order to ensure preparedness for additional influx from Burundi, on the 26th of May, Uganda’s “Burundi Refugees Response Plan” was presented to partners by Mr. David Apollo Kazungu, Commissioner for Refugees, Office of the Prime Minister (OPM). Furthermore, Commissioner Kazungu noted that while the Uganda Government was carefully considering the option of granting “prima facie” status for Burundians, that operational partners should redouble and expand their operations in anticipation of a significant refugee influx.

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3,690
# of children amongst the Burundian Refugees who have crossed into Uganda.
(Office of the Prime Minister, 2015)

5,952
# of Burundians who have crossed into Uganda since November 2014
(Office of the Prime Minister, 2015)

2015 Funding Requirements for Burundian Refugees
US$ 2.9 million

UNICEF Uganda Resource Requirements for Burundi Emergency

- Education 40%
- Health & Nutrition 35%
- Child Protection 4%
- WASH 21%
Humanitarian leadership and coordination

The Government of Uganda’s refugee policy pivots around integration into Ugandan communities. The coordination of all interventions to address immediate needs of Burundian refugees will be led by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) with support from UNHCR. The UN Country Team will provide specialised technical support to the range of needs posed by the influx. The OPM has invited partners - including UNICEF - for a Joint Field Visit (fact finding mission) for the Burundian refugee situations in south west region from 28-29 May 2015. A UNICEF programme team in the Western Zone is strategically placed to support the joint assessment mission as well as any future response activities.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF has operational programming in the region where Burundian refugees are being settled. UNICEF’s humanitarian support to refugees from Burundi is based on an inter-agency “Burundian Refugee Response Plan” The operational planning figure for Uganda is 15,000 refugees. Within the contingency arrangements, scenario one for 5,000 refugees is now exceeded. Scenario two expects up to 10,000 refugees and in scenario three an influx of 15-20,000 refugees, which will trigger an additional plan. There is sufficient space within Nakivale and Oruchinga refugee settlements to accommodate this projected figure of up to 20,000 new arrivals. Nakivale is 70 square miles, with a current population of 74,000 refugees while the smaller Oruchinga hosts 5000 refugees. They are close to the Tanzania and Rwanda border where the majority of asylum seekers are likely to enter Uganda. Combined, the settlements have land and space capacity for 100,000 people; expansion beyond this figure would require development of a road network, water, health and education facilities within the settlements and correlating reception centres. Combined, Kabazana and Jura reception centres have existing infrastructure for up to 2,000 people and can be expanded to a 10,000 person capacity.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health and nutrition screening is ongoing. Teams in the field report no measles, no case of Cholera and very few moderately malnourished children. All newly arrived Burundian refugees are receiving clean water, food rations and NFI (non-food items) kits and children provided access to temporary education. The issue of unaccompanied and separated children is being monitored by staff at the transit centres and a UNICEF team in the field today (27 May, 2015) are further addressing this issue. Furthermore, UNICEF Uganda Country Office has deployed 2,722 cartons of PlumpyNut to neighbouring Rwanda in support of the malnourished children within the Burundian refugee influx and has Cholera kits pre-positioned for possible transfer to neighbouring countries and/or utilisation within the border regions.

UNICEF Uganda is part of the Government and inter-agency response mechanism for the Burundian new arrivals and is requesting **US$2,925,591 in the Burundi appeal** for the sectoral support for WASH, Education, Nutrition and Health (Immunization) and Child Protection. This is a significant request as 35% of this is for substantial “capital investments” required to expand the settlements e.g. for water systems. This is expected to cater for the needs of Burundian refugees received and settled in Nakivale and Oruchinga. UNICEF is currently assessing how it’s commitments to affected women and children can be met within the sectors of health and nutrition, WASH, education and child protection and has joined an inter-agency assessment organised by Government in the border area transit camps and settlement areas. Operational support for social services has been provided by the Uganda Country Office to the Nakivale settlement for the existing refugee caseload and could be further expanded to cater for the Burundian arrivals.

If the current capacity to address immediate needs of women and children seeking asylum from Burundi is stretched (or at over 10,000 refugees), UNICEF envisages support to the extension of water pipelines and services at education institutions within the two main settlements and where appropriate in host communities. Support will be provided for appropriate sanitation and hygiene promotion. UNICEF will ensure adequate provision of protection services for children, including unaccompanied and separated
(UASC) and other vulnerable children. Temporary learning facilities will be supported as well as safe spaces for children. Nutrition supplies and equipment will be procured and distributed. Support will be provided to expand current services and social mobilisation on nutrition and vaccination for women and children under the age of five.

Media and External Communication

UNICEF Communications staff have shared alerts in the media on the developing crisis in Burundi, impacts on children as well as the influx of women, men and children to seek asylum in Uganda.

Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Funding Requirements for Burundian Refugees from April 2015 for 6 months</th>
<th>US$</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,095,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td></td>
<td>959,197</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Nutrition</td>
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<td>580,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
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<td>100,000</td>
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<td>Programme Support</td>
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<td>191,394</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2,925,591</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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UNICEF Uganda requires US$2,925,591 to support immediate needs of women and children within the sectors of WASH, Education, Nutrition and Health (Immunization) and Child Protection, in line with the Uganda Refugee Response Plan from April to September 2015. In addition to the US$2,925,591 required to respond to the new influx of Burundian refugees, UNICEF appeals for **US$36,111,839 in 2015** of which 12% has been received to date.

Next SitRep: 03/06/15

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